

# State of Maine Judicial Branch Court Interpreter Requirements

Court Interpreters must be able to demonstrate oral and written proficiency in both English and the target language(s). Proficiency includes the following:

- ☐ Ability to quickly, completely, and accurately interpret spoken words from one language to another;
- ☐ Ability to quickly, accurately, and completely sight translate written documents verbally from one language to another;
- ☐ Understanding of basic legal terminology;
- ☐ Ability to perform simultaneous, sight and consecutive interpretation;
- ☐ Ability to provide “meaning for meaning” interpreting, preserving the register of speech and all of its relevant characteristics; and
- ☐ Ability to write comprehensively and spell correctly in both languages.

## Age, Education, and Credentials:

- ☐ At least 20 years of age;
- ☐ High school diploma or equivalent;
- ☐ Must be authorized to work in the United States; and
- ☐ Prior legal interpreting experience is preferred.

## Additional Requirements:

- ☐ Must agree to abide by the Maine Judicial Branch Policy - [\*Standards of Professional Conduct for Interpreters Providing Services in Judicial Proceedings\*](#); and
- ☐ Must submit to a background check completed by the Judicial Branch.

## Qualifications for:

### Tier I - \$35 per interpreting hour pay rate\*

- ☐ File an approved Application for Maine Court Interpreter Work;
- ☐ Pass the [National Center for State Courts Written Examination](#) with a score of 70 or higher;
- ☐ Obtain a minimum of “Advanced – Low” rating on [ACTFL Oral Proficiency Interview](#) in the target language;
- ☐ Complete the Maine Court Interpreters Orientation Program (2 days).

## Qualifications for:

### Tier II - \$45 per interpreting hour pay rate\*

- ☐ Successful Completion of Tier I requirements, AND
- ☐ Pass the [National Center for State Courts Written Examination](#) with a score of 80 or higher;
- ☐ Complete the Maine Court Interpreter Advanced Legal Training Program (4 days);
- ☐ 50 hours of documented legal interpreting experience; and
- ☐ Two years of post-secondary education.

## Qualifications for:

### Tier III - \$50 per interpreting hour pay rate\*

- ☐ [Federal Court certification](#) (OR) Satisfactory completion of all three sections of the [NCSC Oral Examination](#)

\*Maine Court Interpreters are also paid for travel time and reimbursed for mileage expenses pursuant to current policy